



# United States Department of Interior

Fish & Wildlife Service  
Lower Great Lakes Fishery Resources Office  
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Amherst, New York 14228



## LOWER GREAT LAKES FISHERY RESOURCES OFFICE

# MONTHLY REPORT April 2004



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### LGLFRO Staff

Chris Castiglione, GIS Specialist  
Cara Ewell Hodkin, Biological Technician  
Kofi Fynn-Aikins, Chief  
Michael Goehle, Fishery Biologist  
Sandra Keppner, Invasive Species Coordinator  
Gail Testa, Administrative Officer  
Betsy Trometer, Fishery Biologist  
Emily Zollweg, Fishery Biologist

### Volunteers

### LAKE STURGEON RESTORATION

*Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Coordination Meeting*  
Planning has begun for the 2004 meeting to be held November 9-10, 2004 in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. The first announcement and call for papers was sent out. The themes for this year's meeting are habitat restoration and fish passage.

Emily and Dawn Dittman (USGS) surveyed the Genesee River (4/27-29) for juvenile lake sturgeon stocked in September 2003. No lake sturgeon were captured.

### INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM Coordination

Mike gave a presentation at the Great Lakes-Baltic Sea Workshop held in Ann Arbor, MI titled, "Monitoring Tools for AIS in the Great Lakes" (4/28). The talk was given to an audience of invasive species scientists from the United States,

Latvia, Norway, Finland, and Russia. Mike provided a summary of the major techniques used by federal and state agencies to monitor invasive species in the Great Lakes.

### HABITAT EVALUATION/RESTORATION

Mike assisted Natalie Brown (Buffalo State College) with an electrofishing assessment of the west branch of Cazenovia Creek, Holland, NY (4/19). The objective of this monthly project is to detect any fish community changes in the stream following stream bank stabilization efforts which took place in 2003.

Mike and Emily helped plant trees at Dann Lake in the Town of Amherst with local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops (4/25). The troops were honored by the EPA and President Bush with an Environmental Youth Award this month for this and other projects they have undertaken in the last three years.

### EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Mike participated in the 2004 western New York Envirothon competition held at Chestnut Ridge Park (4/1). Mike taught the "Aquatics" portion which included classroom and field activities for high school students from several area schools. Students learned how to collect aquatic insects, use water quality instruments, and determined water quality using the Hilsenhoff Index.

Emily presented a talk about lake sturgeon in Lake Erie to local sportsmen at the "State of Lake Erie" meeting hosted by New York Sea Grant and NY Assemblyman Dick Smith (4/17). An interview with Emily about lake sturgeon was also published in the Buffalo News (4/18).

Kofi and Emily represented the LGLFRO at the Iroquois NWR Open House (4/24). The weather was beautiful and over 300 people turned out to

see the exhibits, tour the refuge, and chat about resource issues and learn new things.

Chris participated in the Earth Day celebration (4/16) sponsored by the University at Buffalo Environment & Society Institute. Over 100 people joined in the celebration which included poster presentations, guest speakers, and participants from area organizations and agencies.

### **STAFF TRAINING**

Emily, Mike, and Cara attended a workshop hosted by the Army Corp of Engineers on Stream Restoration Techniques (4/6-9). The class included in-depth descriptions of restoration techniques and included field trips to Eighteenmile Creek on Lake Ontario and Cayuga Creek, a tributary of Lake Erie.

### **OTHER**

Chris attended the Great Lakes Section Meeting hosted by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (4/7-8). The meeting included discussions of fish stocking, creel surveys, fishing regulations, and future plans for Lake Ontario.

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This monthly report provides a brief, in-house report on recent activities, issues or events of the Lower Great Lakes Office. Its contents should not be used or cited elsewhere in any way without first contacting our staff. This is to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information.